

## NCCS Update (October 2023)

A Call to Prayer for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: As a peace-loving Christian community in Singapore, our hearts are burdened by the war and the loss of lives in Israel and Palestine, and the deepening humanitarian crisis. It is our hope that Christians will continue praying for peace and the protection of helpless civilians caught in the conflict. The NCCS leadership invites you to join us in this prayer:

## A Prayer inspired by Psalm 120 and the war between Hamas and Israel in October 2023

Woe to me that I dwell in Meshech, that I live among the tents of Kedar! Too long have I lived among those who hate peace. I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war. (Psalm 120:5-7 NIV)

Almighty God, have mercy on our world and on us.

We live in a world where leaders, in the name of security and justice, trade in human lives and the promotion of acts that perpetuate terror and death for so many<sup>[1]</sup>.

Woe am I! Woe are we that we live in such a world. Forgive us and have mercy on us and our world. May Thy kingdom come, and Thy good will be done on earth.

Too long have we lived among a people who seem to hate peace, or who exact violence in the name of justice and vengeance.

We are for peace, but when we speak for peace, so many speak for war.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on Gaza, and Israel, and our world.

Lord, bless and help all who speak and act for peace;

All who seek to bring food and water,

Help and hope to all who are suffering.

And may all the children and adults who have been butchered or bombed receive Your blessing of Eternal Life

Through Jesus Christ Your Son,

Who also suffered a most violent death, but

Who rose again and lives to give Life to all forevermore.

AMEN.

<sup>[1]</sup> See the description of Meshech in Ezekiel 27:13; 32:26

**The Ethos Annual Lecture 2023** will be delivered by his eminence Cardinal William S.C. Goh on 17 November 2023. The theme of the lecture is 'The Culture of Death', an expression which is found in Pope John Paul II's 1995 encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*. This lecture explores those aspects of modern culture which violate the dignity and sanctity of human life such as abortion, euthanasia and war.

Please note the change of venue to St Andrew's Cathedral. To register for this lecture, please click on this <u>LINK</u>

**MHA Resource Kit** on the early reporting of radicalised behaviours. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has developed a resource kit to provide relevant information so that people are:

- 1. familiar with the signs of radicalisation and the process after information is submitted;
- 2. able to address the barriers to reporting by giving assurance to concerned individuals (e.g. loved ones, friends of the radicalised individual) and allaying their concerns about reporting; and
- 3. familiar with the channels of reporting.

The MHA Resource Kit is available here LINK.